THE Liverpool Tragedy.

Or A Warning to disobedient Children and Covetous Parents

PART 1st. Shewing how one *Robert Fuller* a wealthy Grasier, living in the town of *Liverpool* in *Lancashire*, he had 2 Daughters and one Son named *John* his father's darling, and a very hopeful youth, whom he put apprentice to a Famous Surgeon in the town, and serv'd his Master faithful till his times was out and afterwards him as Journeyman for a year, till getting acquainted with a Surgeons mate who perswaded him to go to Sea, telling him he might came to promotion; which so inspired his mind that he went to his father and told him he would go to Sea, and begs his Father blessing which he refused, telling him he would never have his blessing nor the Blessing of God's which he accordingly did

ed [illegible] also his [illegible]

2d. How he went a Voyage to [illegible] and was in a storm where the ship was drove on a rock.

3d. How this young man swam to a Rock where he was five days, and how the Devil appear'd to him saying if he would be his Servant he would bring him from that place but finding who it was, the young man fell on his knees and did defiance to him saying he trusted in God, and would serve none but him alone.

4th. How the Captain came where he was, fetch'd him away and sail'd to Bengal, where he married

5th. How he [illegible]

The Liverpool TRAGEDY.

YOU tender parents that has children dear,
Be pleased to wait a while and you shall hear,
A dismal accident befell of late,
Which ought to bear an everlasting Date.
At famous Liverpool in Lancashire,
One Mr. Robert Fuller liv'd we hear,
A Grazier who lived in a happy state,
He being not too poor nor yet too great.
He had 3 Daughters charming beauty's bright,
And but one Son which was his hearts delight,
His Father doated on him, and in truth,
He was a dutiful and sober Youth.
He bound him Prentice to one Mr. Brown,
A noted Surgeon who lived in the town,
With whom he staid the term of Seven years,
And served him faithfully as it appears.
And afterwards sometime with him did dwell,
And as a Servant pleas'd his Master well,
He got acquainted with a Surgeons Mate,
Who was going a Voyage up the Straights:
He did perswade him for to go to Sea.
And said in time he might promoted be,
This so much wrought upon the young man's mind,
That he to go with him seem'd much inclin'd.
He went and told his Father his design,
That he would go to Sea in little time,
For I to the East Indies now will go,
Therefore dear Father do not say me no.
To hear these Words his Father was surpris'd,
It soon fetch'd tears from his aged Eyes,
Can you my Son said he from me depart,
And leave me here behind with aching heart.
Because I placed in you my chief delight,
Do you my tender care this way requite,
You my consent to go shall never have,
'Twill bring me down with sorrow to my Grave.
Go wilful Youth perhaps the time may come,
That you may wish you'd staid with me at home,
But all these arguments could not prevail,
was resolv'd the raging main to sail.

His mother cry'd I thought I'd had a ſon,
Would been my comfort for the time to come,
His ſiſters cry'd dear brother do not go.
And leave our Father thus oppreſs with woe.
His Father ſaid my ſon, let reaſon rule,
Take my advice and do not play the fool,
What is the meaning of this ſudden change,
What makes your Fancy at this time to range.
Why will you go to ſail tempeſteous Seas,
When you may ſtay at home with peace and eaſe,
And live a happy free retir'd Life,
Beſides I'll ſeek you out a virtuous wife.
Father all theſe perſwaſions are in vain,
I am reſolv'd to croſs the Raging Main,
Therefore give me your bleſſing e'er I go,
For I'll be gone whether you will or no.
His father cry'd ſince you don't me regard,
God juſtly will your Wickedneſs Reward,
God's heavy Judgments will upon you come,
For being ſuch a diſobedient ſon.
So you muſt go without what now you crave,
Mine nor God's bleſſing you will never have,
What courſes now this ſtubborn youth doth ſteer,
You in the Second part ſhall quickly hear.

PART II.

HE went with ſpeed unto the Surgeons mate,
And with him went a Voyage up the ſtraights;
But with that Voyage he was not content,
Further to go his Rambling mind was bent.
He came to London and a ſhip he found,
Which lay at Deptford for the Indies bound,
He ſtraitway ordered his matters ſo,
As Surgeons mate on board of her to go.
That very next Day as ſhe ſet ſail we hear,
He ſent a Letter to his father dear,
Father he ſaid, I am alive and well,
But when I ſhall return I cannot tell,
I am on board a noble ſhip of fame,
For the Eaſt Indies bound, the Prince by Name,
I will come home when my wild frolick's run,
So this is all at preſent from your ſon.

His aged Father read the Letter strait,
And said my son is gone in spite of fate,
All I can do I'll act a Fathers part,
And beg of God to turn his stubborn heart.
Where now his aged Father we will leave,
And turn unto his son which made him grieve,
Who then was sailing on the Ocean wide,
But mark in what short time did him betide,
As by the Coast of Brazil they did sail,
Boreas began to blow a blustering Gale,
Dark misty clouds did veil the azurr skie,
A storm will come the Sailors all did cry;
Loud thunder claps which did them amaze,
And lightening flashing in their eyes,
The Captain then with deep concern did say,
If this storm holds we shall be cast away,
He scarce had spoken these words but on a rock;
The ship was drove with such a mighty shock,
She stuck so fast she could not get away,
So they a while in sorrow forc'd to stay.
The Captain said let's beg of God that he,
May from this dreadful danger set us free,
Next let all hands help to heave out the Boat,
That o'er the foaming billows we may float.
He gave command the thing as soon was done,
And overboard with speed the boat was flung,
Each man to save his life got in with speed,
Untill the boat will hold no more indeed,
The Boat it was so full it could not swim,
So some was forc'd to get out again,
The Surgons mate the Graziers stuborn Son,
As Fortune order'd chanced to be one.
That was obliged out of the Boat to go,
Back to the ship with Heart opprest with woe,
Fifteen poor souls behind them they did leave,
Whose piercing cries a stony Heart would grieve,
The Captain said my boat will hold no more,
But if it please God I live to get on shore,
And you remain alive in this sad case,
I'll surely come and fetch you from this place.

Part third.

PART III.

THE poor distressed men in great Dispair,
Unto the Lord did make their humble prayer,
Expecting every minute for to be
Sunk to the bottom of the raging Sea,
The grasiers Son said here I will not stay,
But thro' the foaming billows swam away.
I can swim well the Seas does calm appear,
So fare you well my brother sailors dear,
He overboard did jump before them all,
Which made the Shipmates after him to call,
You silly man you cannot get ashore,
I fear that we shall never see you more.
Thus he swam a long day till almost night,
When his poor wearied Limbs were tired quite
But Fortune unto him did prove so kind,
That he by chance a mighty Rock did find,
This Rock was ruged high and very steep
He with much trouble up the same did creep,
And looked round no Land he could behold,
He cried my sorrows now are manifold,
My Fathers Words into my mind does come,
That I should wish I'd staid with him at home
Alas I find it's true what he has said,
But now my disobedience is repaid,
He likewise told me if I e'er did slight,
His careful council God would me requite,
He told me tho' a blessing I did crave,
His nor Gods blessing I should never have,
Which now does add unto my bitter smart,
These words alone does cut me to the heart,
He sat him down and to himself did cry,
O Lord without thy help I starve and Die.

PART. IV.

HE thus lamenting spent the tedious Night,
Until the morn, as soon as it it was light,
He went and searched this mighty Rock all round,
There for his Food a few shell fish he found.
Satan the grand Deceiver of Mankind,
Did come to tempt this young man as we find,
Thinking on any term he would comply,
So took advantage of his misery.

As this young man was looking out to ſea,
There at a diſtance from him ſeem'd to be,
A man a Rowing to him in a boat,
Which o're the rowling Waves did ſwiftly float.
This young man thought he'd been a friend at firſt
But afterwards he fear'd 'twas ſomething worſe,
For if a wild man eater it ſhould be,
He firſt will kill and then devour me.
The young man ſoon was freed from that fear
For Satan like a ſailor did appear,
And when he came unto the Rock did ſay,
Young man what have you here been caſt away,
The young man all his ſad misfortunes told,
And as the ſame to him he did unfold,
Three drops of blood down from his Noſe did fall,
Which made him think he was no friend at all.
To ſee this ſight this young man did ſurpriſe,
And many fancies in his mind did riſe,
He nothing ſaid but when he had made an end,
He ſaid, I hope ſir now you'll ſtand my friend.
The Devil ſtraitway ſaid, young man if you
Will be my conſtant ſervant juſt and true.
And will reſign yourſelf up unto me,
I from this wretched place will let you free.
The young man ſoon found who was with him then
And ſaid you grand Deceiver of all Men,
O get you gone your flattery forbear,
What did you think my ſoul for to enſnare.
I all your baſe temptations do deſpiſe,
Thou ſubtil fiend thou rather of all lies,
I will reſign myſelf to God alone,
Therefore you vile Deceiver quick begone.
Bold Satan then did ſtraitway diſappear,
And left the young man trembling with fear,
Where now a while we'll leave him to complain,
And turn unto his ſhipmates once again.
The Captain in the boat got ſafe on ſhore,
And ſoon returned back to the ſhip once more,
Where out of fifteen nine was left alive,
The Captain did their drooping hearts revive.
Where is the reſt of you the Captain ſaid,
Alas, with cold and hunger they are dead,
All but the Surgeons Mate who would not ſtay,
And over board did jump and ſwam away,

The Captain ſaid I hope my Dreams are right,
That he was on a Rock I Dreampt laſt Night,
So Man the boat for I the Rock do know,
To ſave his life I thither now will go.
The boat was man'd & to the Rock they came,
Where to their Joy he did alive remain,
They took him in the boat and came away,
Which proved unto him a happy Day.

PART V.

THeir ſhip from off the Rock they ſoon did get,
And took great pains in well repairing it,
Then for Bengall in India they did ſail,
And ſoon arrived with a proſperous Gale.
The Surgeons mate ſoon got him there a Wife,
And ten years lived a very happy Life,
Six Children had likewiſe a good eſtate,
But he was born to be unfortunate.
About his parents he was troubled ſo,
That back again to England he did go
He left his Wife and Children as 'tis told,
And with him took a thouſand pound in Gold.
Two of his ſiſters in that time was dead,
The other to a Glazier Married.
He call'd there firſt ſhe was o're Joy'd to ſee,
That her dear brother yet alive ſhould be.
How does my parents do then he did ſay,
She cry'd there well I ſaw them Yeſterday,
For they ſo covetous are grown of late,
They ſcarce allow themſelves Food fit to eat.
This Night i'll Go and lodge there he did ſay,
But they ſhan't *know me till you come next day,*
Unto *his* Fathers *houſe he* then *did Go,*
And asked if he could a lodging have or no
They anſwered yes and bid him ſtrait come in,
But *now alas his ſorrows did begin,*
His Father ſaid young man i tell *you true,*
I had a Son was very much like you.
But *he's been gone from me* theſe 14 *Years,*

That

That which has cauſed me many bitter tears,
The young man ſcarce from weeping could refrain.
To hear his Aged Parents thus complain,
A Purſe of Gold he to his mother Gave,
Saying til to morrow keep it for my ſake
She ſaid I will; he ſtraitway went to bed,
But Satan quickly put it in her head,
To murder her own ſon the gold to have
For that was all ſhe in this World Did crave,
Husband ſaid ſhe when he is Dead and gone,
Then all the Gold will ſurely be our own,
To murder this young man they both did go,
But that he was their ſon they did not know,
They found him faſt a ſleep void of all care,
They quickly cut his throat from ear to ear
His Siſter came next Day ſaying Father Dear'
Did there not come laſt night a Sailor here
He anwer'd no; ſhe ſaid there *did in deed*
Alas we Have made our only Son to bleed.
He ſtraitway then took up the bloody Knife,
And inſtantly departed his wretched life,
His Wife ſhe ſet a little while below
At laſt up ſtairs did to her husband go,
Where to her griefe ſhe ſee him bleeding lie,
She ſaid alas i've cauſed you to die
All by my means for the ſake of curſed gold
My child and Husband dead i do behold
Now will i make up the number three
How can I live ſuch a ſad ſight to ſee,
Saying World farewel, Gold from you i muſt part
So run the knife unto her cruel heart.
The Daughter wondring at their long delay
Did go up ſtairs to ſee what made them ſtay
When this dreadfull fight ſhe did behold.
Her mother bleeding all the ſtory told
Then did her daughter weep and wail her way
And raving mad died the next day
Let Children all from diſobedience flee,
And Parents not too Covetous to be.

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